

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find a listing of the claims below, with the statuses of the claims shown in parentheses. This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently amended) An attention detection system comprising:

at least one first sensor device, located at a host wearer, for generating a host perspective signal ~~relating to a host wearer from a host perspective and~~ relating to attention clues ~~clue signals~~ indicative of the attention of the host wearer to ~~the host perspective signal~~ an observer; and

at least one second sensor device, located at the observer, for generating [a] an observer perspective signal relating to ~~the host wearer from an observer perspective and~~ relating to said attention clue signals attention clues indicative of the attention of the observer to the host wearer; and

a portable attention detector for receiving the host perspective and the observer perspective ~~attention clue~~ signals and for determining a situation of raised attention of said host wearer from said received host perspective ~~attention clues~~ signal and said received observer perspective ~~attention clues~~ signal.

2. (Currently amended) The attention detection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one first sensor device comprises:

an image capture device for capturing an image from the self-perspective of said host wearer in response to ~~[[a]]~~ the determined situation of raised attention.

3. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one first sensor device is adapted to be worn by said host wearer.

4. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one second sensor device is adapted to be worn by ~~a wearer other than the host wearer~~ the observer.

5. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one second sensor device is adapted to be located in a place where said host ~~[[user]]~~ wearer is likely to be.

6. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a people-observing device for communicating with said attention detector.

7. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a plurality of the people-observing devices, each of which is capable of:

communicating with said attention detector; and
communicating with each other.

8. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim ~~[[6]]~~ 7, wherein at least one of the people-observing devices comprises a camera device.

9. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising first and second user-observing devices, including beacons for locating and detecting the host wearer and the observer.

10. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the portable attention detector and at least one first sensor device are integrated into a host wearable device.

11. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a people-observing device for communicating with said attention detector, wherein said people-observing device is configurable for cooperating with at least one other people-observing device for communicating information with said at least one other people-observing device.

12. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a people-observing device for communicating with said attention ~~detection module~~ detector, wherein said people- observing device is configurable for recognizing at least one other people-observing device to form a group of people-observing devices capable of recognizing each other.

13. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein said people-observing device can be set to communicate or not communicate with at least one other people-observing device based on an analysis of contextual information relating to the host ~~[[user]]~~ wearer.

14. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a people-observing device ~~that can~~ configured to be set to selectively communicate with at least one other people-observing device based on an analysis of a type of attention clue detected.

15. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one people-observing device ~~that can~~ configured to be set to selectively communicate with said attention detector depending upon the type of attention clue detected.

16. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first sensor device and the second sensor device comprises a digital camera device for capturing a digital image.

17. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ first sensor device is arranged for detecting a facial expression of said host wearer and for generating the host perspective ~~attention~~ signal based on the detected facial expression of said host wearer.

18. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ first sensor device is arranged for detecting an eye direction of said host wearer and for generating the host perspective ~~attention~~ signal based on the detected eye direction of said host wearer.

19. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ first sensor device is arranged for detecting body language of said host wearer and for generating the host perspective ~~attention~~ signal based on the detected body language of said host wearer.

20. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ first sensor device is arranged for detecting body posture of the host wearer and for generating the host perspective ~~attention~~ signal based on the detected body posture of the host wearer.

21. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first sensor device or the second sensor device or both sensor devices include a detector for the context of an environment where said host wearer is located, the host perspective ~~attention~~ signal or the observer perspective ~~attention~~ signal or both ~~the attention and perspective signals~~, as appropriate, being dependent on the context of the environment where said host wearer is located.

22. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first sensor device or the second sensor device or both sensor devices include a vocal utterance detector of the host wearer, the host perspective ~~attention~~ signal or the observer perspective ~~attention~~ signal or both ~~the attention and perspective signals~~, as appropriate, being dependent on the vocal utterance detector of the host wearer.

23. (Currently amended) A method of capturing images using at least one camera device, said method comprising:

detecting an attention clue exhibited by at least one first animate object from the perspective of a host second animate object carrying said at least one camera device, said attention clue being captured by said at least one camera device and indicating that ~~the attention of the first animate object~~ pays attention to the second animate object ~~is drawn by a subject;~~

detecting an attention clue of said second animate object from an observer perspective ~~of the at least one first animate object~~ external of said second animate object;

activating said at least one camera device so it captures an image of ~~[[said]]~~ a subject related to the at least one first animate object in response to detection of said attention clues of the first and second animate objects.

24. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said step of detecting an attention clue exhibited by the at least one first animate object comprises detecting a facial expression of said at least one first animate object.

25. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said step of detecting an attention clue exhibited by the at least one first animate object comprises detecting an eye direction of said at least one first animate object.

26. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said step of detecting an attention clue exhibited by the at least one first animate object comprises detecting body language of said at least one first animate object.

27. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said step of detecting an attention clue exhibited by the at least one first animate object comprises detecting body posture of said at least one first animate object.

28. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said step of detecting an attention clue exhibited by the at least one first animate object comprises detecting a vocal utterance of said at least one first animate object.

29. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the detecting step of the attention clue of said second animate object comprises:

capturing an image from the perspective of the ~~observer~~ at least one first animate object external to the second animated object; and

performing image processing of said image so there is detected an attention clue of said second animate object, the detected image of the attention clue of the second animate object being selected from the set including:

a facial expression;

an eye direction;

a body movement; and

a body posture.

30. (Currently amended) A method of automatically capturing an image of a first animate object by a host wearer, said method comprising:

detecting at least one attention signal of the first animate object toward the host wearer, in response to a detectable body parameter of ~~at least one~~ the first animate object;

analyzing said at least one attention signal to determine an interest level of said ~~at least one~~ first animate object, said analysis being performed at the host wearer in a mode of an observer perspective of said ~~at least one~~ first animate object; and

capturing said image in response to said interest level.

31. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 30 further comprising~~[[:]]~~:
determining a situational saliency of a scene by analyzing said at least one attention signal.

Claims 32 - 33. (Cancelled).

34. (Currently amended) An image capture device comprising:

an image detector device for capturing an image;

a transponder device for receiving activation signals from a remote source;

an attention detection component for ~~determining~~ detecting an attention signal of a ~~person~~ host wearer from a self perspective and the activation signals from the remote source;

~~a transponder device for receiving activation signals from a remote source;~~
said attention detection component being configured for ~~identifying~~ analyzing
said activation signals and said attention signal, and activating the image capture device
to capture of an the image in response to said self perspective ~~activation~~ attention signal
and said received activation ~~signal~~ signals.

35. (Previously presented) A device for observing at least one first animate object comprising:

an interface for interfacing with at least one sensor device for deriving a first signal indicative of an attention state of the first animate object;

a receiver for a sensor signal representing aspects of body language of the first animate object, the aspects being observed from a position external of said first animate object; and

an analyzer for determining from said first signal and said sensor signal at least one attention clue related to a second animate object observing the first animate object; and

a transmitter for transmitting the attention clue signals.

36. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 35, further comprising:

a transponder device adapted to be carried by the first animate object for transmitting said sensor signals to a location displaced from the first animate object.

37. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 35, wherein the sensor signal receiver includes:

an image capture device for capturing image frames including aspects of the body language of the first animate object.

38. (Currently amended) An attention detection component for determining a level of attention of ~~at least one animate object~~ a host wearer, said component comprising:

a self perspective attention analyzer for analyzing attention clues of the host wearer toward an observer; and

an observer perspective attention analyzer for analyzing attention clues of the observer toward the host wearer from an observed perspective of the host wearer;

wherein the self and observer perspective attention analyzers determine from the attention clues a level of interest of the host wearer, an analyzer for (a) at least one attention clue signal, and (b) determining from said attention clue signal, a level of interest of said at least one animate object, the attention detection component being operable for analyzing said attention clues in a self perspective mode, in which said attention clues relate to the ~~at least one animate object~~ host wearer.

39. (Cancelled).

40. (Currently amended) The attention detection component as claimed in claim 38, the component being operable in an observer perspective mode, in which said attention

clues represent signals describing behavior of ~~an animate object~~ the observer observed by the host wearer from a remote location.

41. (Original) The attention detection component as claimed in claim 38, comprising a transponder device for receiving said attention clue signals from a remote sender device.

42. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer program for causing a computer to perform steps comprising:

analyzing a plurality of sensor signals representing attention clues collected from a self perspective of a first animate object toward a second animate object, and attention clues from the second animate object toward the first animate object collected from an observed perspective of said first animate object, and determining from said sensor signals and collected attention clues, a behavioral mode of the first animate object; and
generating an image capture trigger signal for triggering an image capture device to capture image data, in response to said sensed behavioral mode of said first animate object.

43. (Currently amended) An attention detection system comprising:

a portable attention detector for receiving attention clues toward an observer generated from a self perspective of a host wearer of said attention detector;

an animate object observing device for observing said host wearer from an observer perspective of the observer external of said host wearer and determining

attention clues of said host wearer from said observer perspective externally of said host wearer;

said attention detector being capable of determining a situation of raised attention of said host wearer from said self perspective attention clues, and said received observer perspective attention clues.

44. (Currently amended) A system for detecting the attention level of a first animate object comprising:

a first sensor for generating a first signal relating to the attention level of the first animate object to a second animate object from the perspective of the first animate object;

a second sensor for generating a second signal relating to the attention level toward the first animate object from a perspective ~~other than the first animate object of~~ the second animate object; and

a processor for determining that the first animate object has a raised attention level in response to the first and second signals.

45. (Currently amended) The system of claim 44 wherein the second sensor is arranged to respond to a parameter indicative of the attention being paid to the first animate object by ~~[[a]]~~ the second animate object.

46. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the first and second sensors are adapted to be carried by the first animate object.

47. (Original) The system of claim 46 wherein the second sensor comprises an image detector adapted to be responsive to at least a portion of an image of the second animate object.

48. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the first and second sensors are respectively adapted to be carried by the first and second animate objects.

49. (Original) The system of claim 48 wherein the second sensor is connected to a transmitter (a) adapted to be carried by the second animate object, and (b) arranged to transmit the second signal from the second animate object to the first animate object.

50. (Currently amended) The system of claim 44 wherein the ~~second~~ first sensor is arranged to respond to a parameter indicative of the reaction of the first animate object to the environment where the first animate object is located.

51. (Original) The system of claim 50 wherein the second sensor is adapted to be located at a position removed from the first animate object, and further comprising a transmitter arranged to transmit the second signal from said position to a receiver (a) arranged to receive the second signal, and (b) adapted to be carried by the first animate object.

52. (Currently amended) A method of detecting ~~[[the]]~~ an attention level of a first animate object comprising:

sensing ~~[[the]]~~ a first attention level of the first animate object toward a second animate object from the perspective of the first animate object;

~~generating a signal relating to the first animate object from a perspective other than the first animate object; and~~

sensing a second attention level to the first animate object from a perspective of the second animate object; and

determining that the first animate object has a raised attention level in response to the sensed ~~attention level and the signal~~ first and second attention levels.

53. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52 wherein the ~~signal~~ second attention level is generated in response to a parameter indicative of the attention being paid to the first animate object by a second animate object.

54. (Currently amended) The method of claim 53 wherein the sensing of the first attention level is by a first sensor ~~[[is]]~~ carried by the first animate object.

55. (Currently amended) The method of claim 54 wherein the sensor comprises an image detector responsive to at least a portion of an image of the second animate object.

56. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[53]]~~ 54 wherein the ~~first and second sensors are respectively carried by the first and second animate objects~~ sensing of the second attention level is by a second sensor carried by the second animate object.

57. (Original) The method of claim 56 further comprising transmitting the second signal from the second animate object to the first animate object.

58. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52 wherein the ~~second sensor~~ sensing of the first attention level responds to a parameter indicative of the reaction of the first animate object to the environment where the first animate object is located.

59. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[58]]~~ 56 wherein the second sensor is located at a position removed from the first animate object, and further comprising transmitting the second signal from said position to a receiver that receives the second signal and is carried by the first animate object.